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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/617,252	07/11/2003	Kwang-ryul Kim	1293.1914	2436
21171	7590	10/03/2005	EXAMINER	
STAAS & HALSEY LLP SUITE 700 1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W. WASHINGTON, DC 20005			VO, ANH T N	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2861	

DATE MAILED: 10/03/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/617,252

Applicant(s)

KIM ET AL.

Examiner

Anh T.N. Vo

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 August 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 6-8 and 10-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 20-26 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 6-8, AND 10-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

FINAL REJECTION

The objection of claim 1 is withdrawn in view of the amendments to the claim.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claim 1 remains rejected under 35 USC 102 (b) as being anticipated by Komuro et al. (US Pat. 4,873,622).

Komuro et al. disclose in Figures 4-5 a liquid jet recording head comprising:

- a substrate (21) which includes an ink chamber (24) where ink is stored, nozzles (25) through which ink in the ink chamber is ejected, and a plurality of pads (unmarked pads is located at an element 26) which apply an electrical signal to the substrate to generate droplets in the ink chamber (Figure 5);
- a flexible printed circuit (FPC) cable which includes a conductor (19) corresponding to each of the pads, each conductor having bonding portions (unmarked portion that connects between two elements 27 and 19) at front ends thereof; and

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- connection members (27) which electrically connect the pads to the bonding portions (Figure 5).

Claim 1 remains rejected under 35 USC 102 (e) as being anticipated by Patil et al. (US Pat. 6,425,655).

Patil discloses in Figures 1-3 an ink jet pen comprising:

- a substrate (14) which includes ink chamber where ink is stored, nozzles (18) through which ink in the ink chamber is ejected, and a plurality of pads (38) which apply an electrical signal to the substrate to generate droplets in the ink chamber (Figures 1-2);
- a flexible printed circuit (FPC) cable (26) which includes a conductor (32) corresponding to each of the pads (38), each conductor having bonding portions (36) at front ends thereof;
- connection members (40) which electrically connect the pads (38) to the bonding portions (36) (Figure 3); and
- an insulating connection ribbon to fix the plurality of connection members (40) in a parallel arrangement (Figure 2).

Claim 1 remains rejected under 35 USC 102 (e) as being anticipated by Akhavain et al. (US Pat. 6,543,880).

Akhavain et al. disclose in Figures 1- 7 an inkjet print head assembly comprising:

- a substrate (32) which includes an ink chamber (323) where ink is stored, nozzles (13) through which ink in the ink chamber is ejected, and a plurality of pads (41) which apply an electrical signal to the substrate to generate droplets in the ink chamber (Figures 1 and 5);
- a flexible printed circuit (FPC) cable which includes a conductor (64) corresponding to each of the pads (41), each conductor (64) having bonding portions (66) at front ends thereof; and

- connection members (68) which electrically connect the pads (41) to the bonding portions (66) (Figure 7).

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior arts are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2, 6-8 and 10-19 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Patil et al. (US Pat. 6,425,655) in view of Asano (US Pat. 6,396,665).

Patil discloses the basic features of the claimed invention were stated above but do not disclose the FPC includes a protection layer, protecting the conductor, having an opening through which the bonding portions are exposed is provided in the protection layer and one end of each pad, one end of each connection member and one end of the bonding portions are bonded to each other by hot pressure welding or soldering.

Asano discloses in Figures 11A-11C the FPC includes a protection layer (80, 82) to protect the conductor (76), having an opening (84) through which the bonding portions (67, 68) are exposed is provided in the protection layer (80, 82) and one end of each connection is bonded to each other by hot pressure welding or soldering (see Abstract and column 9, line 11-41).

It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the teaching of Asano into the Patil ink jet pen for the purpose of reinforcing the connection strength between the connecting end portions and the FBC.

Response to Applicant's Arguments

The applicant argues that there is no motivation to modify Patil et al because none of the cited references provides any support or evidence that there would be need to modify Patil et al as suggested “reinforcing the connection strength through the connecting end positions and the FBC”. The argument is not persuasive because the examiner recognizes that obviousness can only be established by combining or modifying the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention where there is some teaching, suggestion, or motivation to do so found either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art. See *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988) and *In re Jones*, 958 F.2d 347, 21 USPQ2d 1941 (Fed. Cir. 1992). In this case, Patil discloses the basic features of the claimed invention as stated above but does not disclose the limitation “ FPC includes a protection layer, protecting the conductor, having an opening through which the bonding portions are exposed is provided in the protection layer and one end of each pad, one end of each connection member and one end of the bonding portions are bonded to each other by hot pressure welding or soldering”. While this limitation is suggested in discloses in Figures 11A-11C of Asano in which a protection layer (80, 82) to protect the conductor (76), having an opening (84) through which the bonding portions (67, 68) are exposed is provided in the protection layer (80, 82) and one end of each connection is bonded to each other by hot pressure welding or soldering (see Abstract and column 9, line 11-41). Since welding or soldering suggested by Asano would reinforcing the connection strength through the connecting end positions and the FBC, incorporating the suggestions of Asano in the device of Patil et al would have been obvious to a person having skill in the art at the time the invention was made.

CONCLUSION


THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO

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MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Anh Vo. whose telephone number is (571) 272-2262. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday to Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. The fax number of this Group 2861 is (571) 273-8300.



ANH T.N. VO
PRIMARY EXAMINER
September 29, 2005